

Message Text

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16

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

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O R 300815Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6930

USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 147

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L KATHMANDU 4947

EXDIS

FOR POPPER FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, CB, NP

SUBJECT: KHMER REPRESENTATION

REF: A. STATE 234888

B. USUN 5214

C. KATHMANDU 4906

1. FORTUITOUSLY, SHORTLY AFTER ARRIVAL OF YOUR MESSAGE, DM HAD APPOINTMENT WITH PALACE FOREIGN AFFAIRS ADVISOR, CHIRAN THAPA. DURING COURSE OF THIS MEETING, DCM INDICATED THAT I HAD HOPED BE ABLE TO RAISE ISSUE WITH HIS MAJESTY DURING MY NOVEMBER 29 AUDIENCE BUT HAD NOT DONE SO SINCE WASHINGTON'S INSTRUCTIONS HAD NOT THEN BEEN RECEIVED. DCM STRESSED TO THAPA USG CONCERN AT CHANGE IN NEPALESE POSITION AND POINTED OUT SERIOUS PRECEDENT WHICH WOULD BE CREATED IF EXILE GOVERNMENTS WERE GIVEN REPRESENTATION IN UNITED NATIONS. HE SUGGESTED THAT FOR NEPAL THIS SHOULD BE MATTER OF CONCERN GIVEN LONG-STANDING PROBLEMS OF EXILE POLITICIANS RESIDENT IN INDIA. DCM ALSO NOTED THAT SIHANOUK GOVERNMENT DID NOT CONTROL BULK OF LAND AND POPULATION IN CAMBODIA. HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT GON WOULD FIND IT POSSIBLE TO RECONSIDER ITS POSITION. THAPA TOOK NOTES
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ON DCM'S PRESENTATION AND SAID HE WOULD CONSULT HIS MAJESTY AT ONCE.

2. THAPA POINTED OUT IN JUSTIFICATION OF GON'S POSITION THAT ALL

NEPAL'S NEIGHBORS HAD EITHER RECOGNIZED SIHANOUK'S GOVERNMENT OR ADOPTED PRO-SIHANOUK STANCE. HE REVERTED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS TO STRONG CHINESE SUPPORT FOR SIHANOUK CLEARLY IMPLYING THAT THIS FACT HAD GONE INTO GON DECISION.

3. COMMENT: AS WE INDICATED IN OUR ORIGINAL ASSESSMENT OF GON DECISION, KING'S FORTHCOMING VISIT TO PEKING AND DESIRE TO PUT NEPALESE POLICY ON THIS ISSUE IN LINE WITH THAT OF CHINESE, WERE PROBABLY MAJOR CONSIDERATIONS. SINCE GON'S NEW POSITION HAD NOT YET BECOME PUBIC, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT OUR EFFORT WITH PALACE WILL RESULT IN REVERSION TO ABSTENTION, BUT DECISIONS ONCE TAKEN AT HIGHEST LEVEL IN GON ARE RARELY REVERSED, AND WE SHOULD NOT COUNT ON CHANGE IN NEPALESE VOTE.
CARGO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 11 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEMBERSHIP
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973KATHMA04947
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: P750023-0810
From: KATHMANDU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731166/abqcefpj.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: A. STATE 234888 B. USUN 5214 C. KATHMANDU 4906
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31-Oct-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <13-Dec-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KHMER REPRESENTATION
TAGS: PFOR, PORG, NP, CB, UNGA
To: STATE
USUN N Y INFO BANGKOK
PHNOM PENH
TOKYO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005